LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 – 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A method for preventing corrosion of metal in an atmospheric distillation column for petroleum refining process, comprising:

preparing (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide, and

adding only the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide to fluid containing water for preventing corrosion of metal and formation of hydrogen chloride, the fluid contacting an ~~which contacts the~~ inside of the atmospheric distillation column for petroleum refining process, the amount of (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide being adjusted to maintain ~~such that~~ a pH value thereof at ~~the~~ a top line of the atmospheric distillation column ~~is~~ at 5.5 - 6.5, thereby reacting the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide with magnesium chloride and calcium chloride contained within the fluid to produce (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydrochloride and preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.

9 – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit, comprising:

preparing (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide; and

adding only the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide to the desalted crude oil in between a crude oil desalter and a main distillation column in the crude oil atmospheric distillation unit, thereby reacting the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide with magnesium chloride and calcium chloride contained within the desalted crude oil to produce (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydrochloride and preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.

12. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled to 0.1 - 5 times by molar equivalent the salts content in the desalted crude oil.

13. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the chloride ion concentration or pH of the condensed water in the main distillation unit is measured, and the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled based on the measurement results.

14. (Original) The method for inhibiting formation of hydrogen chloride in a crude oil atmospheric distillation unit according to Claim 11, wherein the (β-hydroxyethyl)

trimethylammonium hydroxide content is controlled such that the chloride ion concentration (sodium chloride conversion) of the overhead receiver water is 0-30 mg/L or the pH of the overhead receiver water is 5.5 - 7.0.

15 – 16. (Canceled)

17. (New) The method for preventing corrosion of metal according to claim 8, wherein NaOH is not added to the fluid that contacts the inside of the atmospheric distillation column during the petroleum refining process.

18. (New) A metal corrosion preventing method contained within a petroleum refining process, the metal corrosion preventing method consisting of:

at least one of preparing or obtaining (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide,

adding the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide to fluid containing water which contacts an inside of an atmospheric distillation column of petroleum refining process such that a pH value thereof at a top line of the atmospheric distillation column is 5.5-6.5, thereby reacting the (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydroxide with magnesium chloride and calcium chloride contained within the fluid to produce (β-hydroxyethyl) trimethylammonium hydrochloride and preventing corrosion of the metal and formation of hydrogen chloride.